

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS

1. A charging system for charging a fee generated by communication in a network system comprising a communication apparatus, a terminal apparatus which performs communication via the communication apparatus, and a seller's apparatus belonging to a seller which has sold the terminal apparatus, said charging system comprising:

a calculation device which calculates the fee, and
a charging processing device which performs processing for charging the seller the calculated fee.

2. The charging system according to claim 1, further comprising a restricting device which restricts generation of the fee based upon conditions set in advance.

3. The charging system according to claim 2, in a case where said communication apparatus and said terminal apparatus perform the communication for transmission of information, and

wherein said restricting device prohibits transmitting information identical with the information being transmitted to said terminal apparatus.

4. The charging system according to claim 3, further comprising an expiration date information adding device which adds expiration

data information, which indicates an expiration date of the information to be transmitted, to the information and transmits the information with expiration data information to said terminal apparatus,

5 wherein said restricting device comprises:

 a first comparing device which compares the expiration date indicated by the transmitted expiration date information and a present time; and

 a first prohibiting device which prohibits execution of the
10 communication when time corresponding to the expiration date is later than the present time.

5. The charging system according to claim 3, further comprising a regional information adding device which adds regional information,
15 which indicates a valid region of the information to be transmitted, to the information and transmits the information with regional information to said terminal apparatus,

 wherein said restricting device comprises:

 a second comparing device which compares a valid region
20 indicated by the transmitted regional information and a present position of said terminal apparatus; and

 a second prohibiting device which prohibits execution of the communication when the present position is within the valid region.

6. The charging system according to claim 1,

wherein said seller's apparatus comprises payment acceptance device which performs processing for accepting payment of a fixed amount of fee set in advance from a purchaser of said terminal
5 apparatus.

7. The charging system according to claim 3,

wherein said communication apparatus further comprises a relay transmission device which transmits the information, which is
10 sent from one and more of information transmission apparatuses, to said terminal apparatus.

8. The charging system according to claim 1, wherein at least one of said communication apparatus, said terminal apparatus, and said
15 seller's apparatus provide at least one of said calculation device and said charging device.

9. A communication apparatus included in a charging system for charging a fee generated by communication in a network system
20 comprising the communication apparatus, a terminal apparatus which performs communication via the communication apparatus, and a seller's apparatus belonging to a seller which has sold the terminal apparatus, said communication apparatus comprising:

a calculation device which calculates the fee, and

a charging processing device which performs processing for charging the seller the calculated fee.

10. A terminal apparatus included in a charging system for
5 charging a fee generated by communication in a network system
comprising a communication apparatus, the terminal apparatus
which performs communication via the communication apparatus,
and a seller's apparatus belonging to a seller which has sold the
terminal apparatus, said terminal apparatus comprises a restricting
10 device which restricts generation of the fee based upon conditions set
in advance.

11. A seller's apparatus included in a charging system for charging
a fee generated by communication in a network system comprising a
15 communication apparatus, a terminal apparatus which performs
communication via the communication apparatus, and the seller's
apparatus belonging to a seller which has sold the terminal
apparatus, said seller's apparatus comprises a payment acceptance
device which performs processing for accepting payment of a fixed
20 amount of fee set in advance from a purchaser of said terminal
apparatus.

12. A charging method for charging a fee generated by
communication in a network system comprising a communication

apparatus, a terminal apparatus which performs communication via the communication apparatus, and a seller's apparatus belonging to a seller which has sold the terminal apparatus, said charging method comprising:

- 5 a calculation process which calculates the fee; and
 a charging processing process which performs processing for charging the seller the calculated fee.

13. A charging control data signal embodied in a carrier wave and
10 representing a sequence of instructions that causes a computer, the computer included in a charging system for charging a fee generated by communication in a network system comprising a communication apparatus, a terminal apparatus which performs communication via the communication apparatus, and a seller's apparatus belonging to
15 a seller which has sold the terminal apparatus, said charging control data signal causing the computer to function as:

- a calculation device which calculates the fee; and
 a charging processing device which performs processing for charging the seller the calculated fee.

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14. A data-recording medium having recorded therein a charging control program so as to be readable by a computer, the computer included in a charging system for charging a fee generated by communication in a network system comprising a communication

apparatus, a terminal apparatus which performs communication via the communication apparatus, and a seller's apparatus belonging to a seller which has sold the terminal apparatus, said charging control program causing the computer to function as:

- 5 a calculation device which calculates the fee; and
- a charging processing device which performs processing for charging the seller the calculated fee.